

Appl. No.: 09/809,584
Arndt. dated April 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 13, 2005

04/27/05

AMENDMENT

In the Specification

Please amend paragraphs 34, 36, and 38 to read as follows:

[0034] The URL is preferably constant for a given brokerage. In a preferred embodiment, the URL has a standard prefix ("https:") that is followed by the server name ("//trading.etrade.com"), which is in turn followed by an indication of the application software "/cgi-bin/gx.cgi/AppLogic". However, one of skill in the art will recognize that the URL may be adapted to the particular brokerage services needs. In the preferred embodiment, the software routine for options and stock trading is "TradeMain", while the software routine for mutual funds trading is "MFBuy2".

[0036] The buy parameter is preferably set equal to the symbol for the mutual fund. Accordingly, on a chart page for the Janus Overseas Fund (symbol: JAOSX), the link for the Trade Now item would preferably be: https://trading.etrade.com/cgi-bin/gx.cgi/AppLogic the foregoing URL followed by "+MFBuy2?BUY=JAOSX&LPAGE=Yahoo&SOURCE=yhch231d". Generally, links are not allowed to include white space such as spaces, tabs, or carriage returns. The example links above may include white space in print for formatting reasons and to disable them in electronically published documents. Also, URLs are typically case-insensitive. However, in a preferred embodiment, the parameter names and parameter values are treated as case sensitive by the software routine.

[0038] For stock trading, the valid parameters preferably include: SOURCE, LPAGE, SYMBOL, TXN. The source and Lpage parameters are the same as before, and the SYMBOL parameter here is preferably the same as the mutual fund BUY parameter. The TXN parameter preferably is set equal to one of the following values: "stockform" or "optionform". These values respectively cause the order form for stock trades and the order form for option trades to be provided to the user. Accordingly, on a quote page for Dallas Semiconductor Put options with a strike price of 35 and an expiration in March (Symbol: DSOG.X), the Trade Now item would preferably be: https://trading.etrade.com/cgi-bin/gx.cgi/AppLogic the foregoing URL

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followed by "+TradeMain?LPAGE=Yahoo&SOURCE=yhq0154&SYMBOL=DSOG.X&TXN=optionform". In both this and the previous example, the order form's entry field for the security symbol will be filled with the security symbol provided by the link.